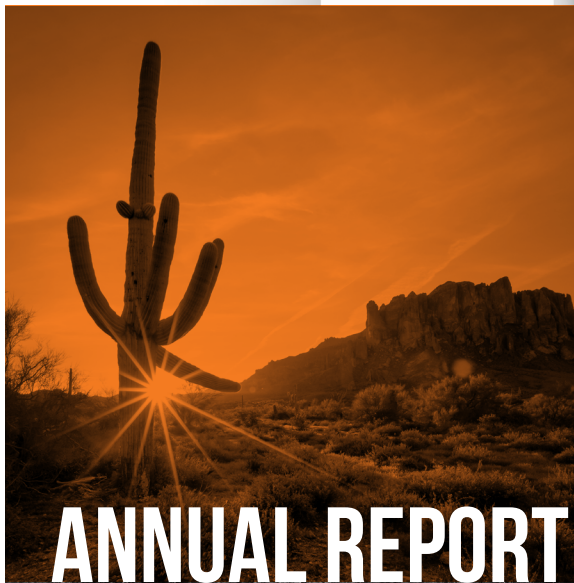


ARIZONA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL



FISCAL YEAR
2017

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Dear Friends,

A significant transition occurred at the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council this year. We bid farewell to Larry Clausen, who retired in December 2016 after serving as executive director for six years. We wish him well and thank him for many of the accomplishments that occurred in this reporting period – many of which were a direct outcome of his leadership with the Council.

This year has been a hectic one, with an unprecedented announcement in March that we could be eliminated out of the federal budget nationwide. Ultimately, this served as a call to action. We recognized we needed to raise awareness, not only of the Council, but of issues impacting people with developmental disabilities. Along with local partners, we met individually with each Congressional delegate. We looked inward and made our own building wheelchair accessible for the first time in decades. We instituted new internal measures along the way to make us more effective and accountable in serving our mission. And for the first time in recent memory, every one of the 23 positions on our Council was filled. Through it all, we have continued to focus our funding on research, training, and projects to help ensure people with developmental disabilities are included in all areas of community life.

We thank our self-advocates, families, and stakeholders who have continued to inform and collaborate with us throughout this journey. This is just the beginning of the change we will continue to make together.

Erica S. McFadden, Ph.D., MSW
Executive Director



Who We Are: A staff of six and student interns assist the all-volunteer Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, which is made up of individuals with developmental disabilities, family members, providers, and state agency representatives. The 23-member Council meets bi-monthly to discuss issues and vote on which projects to support by allocating federal funds.

What We Do: We benefit residents with developmental disabilities and their families by providing grants, education, and original research while fostering advocacy-building in the community.

Mission: We want to develop and support capacity-building and systemic change to increase inclusion and involvement of people with developmental disabilities in their communities through the promotion of self-determination, independence, and dignity in all aspects of life.

Vision: One community, working together, to achieve full inclusion and participation of people with developmental disabilities.

OUR 2017 GOALS + OBJECTIVES



EMPLOYMENT



Erase stigma:
RealTalk Story Series



Promote job skills:
ArtWorks



Encourage hiring, retention, and
promotion: **Untapped Arizona**



INCLUSION PBIS



Help foster kids transition to
adulthood: **Picture of a Life**



Educate schools:
PBIS



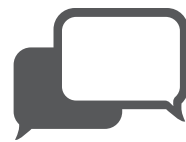
Identify and knock-out barriers:
ADA Webinar



SELF ADVOCACY



Train leaders:
Leadership Grants

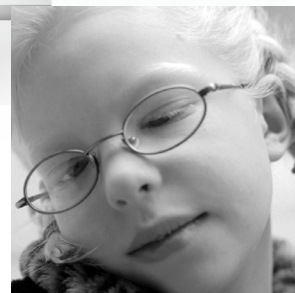


Boost engagement in
community groups: **Latino
Self-Advocacy Groups**



Build coalitions:
Crisis Response Forums

SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION



We Work for Inclusion

Promoting inclusion on a global scale - Arizona State University selected the Council as a host for an international fellow in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. As part of the fellowship, Madina Bakieva mentored under the Council during May 2017. Madina serves as the executive director of the DARA Foundation, a nonprofit in Kazakhstan that serves children with disabilities. She is working toward bringing full inclusion to the Kazakh education system. In September, Council staffer Mike Leyva prepared for an exchange trip under the fellowship to Armenia to experience inclusion projects in the eastern European country.

We Work for Growth

PBIS growth - As the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports project neared the end of its five-year grant, there was a 72-percent growth rate in the number of Arizona schools using PBIS from 2015-2016 to the 2016-2017 school year, bringing the total to 336 schools. It was good news for the grant's main objectives: Create a positive and safe culture in schools to reduce excessive suspensions, restraint, and seclusion practices on students with disabilities.



PILOT PROJECTS



We Work for Creativity

ArtWorks - Based in Tucson at the Sonoran University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, ArtWorks is an art studio and day program providing instruction in the arts and life skills to adults with developmental disabilities. Artists with autism and intellectual disabilities sold their artwork and explained each piece to the wider art community as part of a show at Hozhoni Art Gallery in February 2017.

We Work with Businesses

Untapped Arizona - The Untapped Arizona coalition finished out its five-year Council grant, launching a new website full of resources for local employers seeking to hire people with disabilities. The group also became the Southwest's first affiliate of the U.S. Business Leadership Network, which provides disability and accessibility tools to businesses of all sizes. Both steps aim to increase the amount of businesses who hire Arizonans with disabilities.



Website: www.untappedarizona.org

We Work for Living Fully

Picture of a Life - This was the final year of a five-year joint project with the Sonoran UCEDD, the Department of Child Safety and the Division of Developmental Disabilities, which paired teens with disabilities in foster care with case workers trained in person-centered planning. This allowed youth to create a solid plan for their future after leaving the foster care system. More than 60 teens created a plan. The youth showed more resiliency if they had a supportive team, family, or network providing guidance at key transition points in their lives.

We Work for Advocacy

Self-advocacy grants - Leadership training plays a large role in creating more empowered self-advocates in Arizona. In July 2017, the Council awarded grants to three groups who committed to coordinate leadership classes with people with developmental disabilities of different ages on leadership skills. The project spans into 2018 and will focus on youth and adults in urban, rural and tribal regions through the Spina Bifida Association of Arizona, the Native American Disability Law Center, and Diverse Ability Incorporated.

We Work for Caring

Caregiver Roadmap - The Sonoran UCEDD updated multiple tools for caregivers and service providers as this grant continued into an additional year. The workbook and videos can ease fears and build confidence for families planning for the future of loved ones with developmental disabilities as they each face a new season of life. Five new trainings took place this year in Phoenix and Tucson and reached 72 people, empowering attendees to complete the plan or help clients fill it out.



TRAINING/AWARENESS



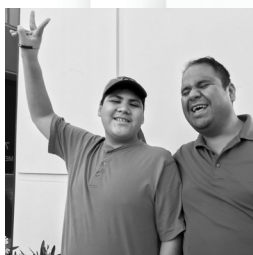
RealTalk Story Series – It's powerful to hear families interview each other about the realities of life with a disability. An independent adult with her mom, a father and young son who help each navigate their separate diagnoses, and a married couple launching a new business all share a slice of life as part of RealTalk, a series of audio stories produced by the Council in March 2017 in honor of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

"Attract Customers and Avoid Lawsuits" webinar – This online presentation targeted at the business community aimed to build confidence among business owners confused about ADA compliance due to recent state legislation about service animals and parking spaces. Viewers heard from the Arizona Center for Disability Law, as well as a local business owner with a disability and a private attorney representing corporations in ADA matters. The three speakers shared best practices and accessibility tips.



Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omTp8pjgnel>

ABLE support continues: A years-long effort to establish an ABLE program in Arizona moved forward as self-advocate and Council Member Jason Snead earned a spot on the state oversight committee to create Arizona's program. The national ABLE Act allows people with disabilities to open tax-free investment accounts with no penalty on certain benefits they receive to survive. The Council continued to update its fact sheet about the program's progress and our website served as a public portal to interested residents seeking more information, becoming the top hit for Google searches about the program.



REPORTS



We're proud to serve as the research arm for developmental disability data in Arizona. In 2017, we released or updated 14 reports and policy briefs. Six reports featured brand new content covering a wide variety of topics, from crisis response and healthcare to possible effects of the state's new minimum wage law on people with disabilities.

Latino Self-Advocacy Groups

Educating Latino individuals with developmental disabilities and caregivers about self-advocacy brought to light cultural advantages and challenges as we partnered with Arizona State University's Morrison Institute to host two self-advocacy trainings in Spanish at sites in Yuma and Phoenix. We released our findings in two reports following the sessions.

Arizona's New Minimum Wage Law (Prop 206): How Does It Impact Workers with Disabilities?

Voters passed Proposition 206 in Nov. 2016, raising the statewide minimum wage to \$12 by 2020. This brief covered how the new law could affect Arizonans who currently receive less than minimum wage.

Phoenix Community Needs Assessment on Crisis Response for People with Mental Illness

The Council helped coordinate a crisis response public forum with the City of Phoenix and behavioral health agencies in light of this report, which recommended more training and treatment options after surveying how first responders respond to mental health crisis calls. A follow-up webinar dug deeper into ways to prevent deadly outcomes.



Crisis Intervention Webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IITvfWkAQ4M>

Lessons in Sustainable Project Planning

When organizations provide one-time project funding, how do initiatives stay alive for the long haul? Created for developmental disabilities councils throughout the country, this report addressed some hard challenges for funders.

The American Health Care Act: Potential Impact on Arizonans with Disabilities

As the summer of 2017 wore on, multiple healthcare bills popped up in Congress, many with deep consequences for people with developmental disabilities who rely on federal health programs to survive. We partnered with the Arc of Arizona to focus on one bill, the American Health Care Act.



COUNCIL MEMBERS FY17

John Black – Chair, Advocate

Melissa Van Hook – Vice-Chair, Parent

Monica Cooper – Self-advocate

David Copins – Self-advocate

John Eckhardt – Parent

Jamie Edgin – University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Representative, University of Arizona

George Garcia – Self-advocate

Traci Gruenberger – Nonprofit Organization Representative, Mosaic

Matthew Isiogu – Arizona Health Care Cost Containment Services, Representative

Angelina James – Parent

Katharine Levandowsky – Department of Health Services, Representative

Scott Lindbloom – Self-advocate

Laura Love – Division of Developmental Disabilities Representative

Kristen Mackey – Rehabilitation Services Agency, Representative

Lori Masseur – Department of Education, Representative

Ray Morris – Parent

Janna Murrell – Parent

J.J. Rico – Protection and Advocacy Agency Representative, Arizona Center for Disability Law

Andrew Robinson – Self-advocate

Charles Ryan – Parent

Jason Snead – Self-advocate

Thomas Uno – University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Representative, Northern Arizona University

Larry Wanger – Self-advocate



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EXPENDITURE INFO

Federal 2017 Expenditures per Goal Area

In 2017, the Council spent \$1,200,191 in federal funding to support programs and operations.

